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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/810,683 | DADASHEV, OLEG | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | ANH PHUNG | 2824 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Election received on April 17, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/24/04</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Search History.</u> |


ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Detailed Office Action

1. This Office Action is responsive to the Election received on April 17, 2006, claims **1-17** are pending in the application.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. This office acknowledges receipt of the following items from the Applicant:
Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on November 24, 2004.
Information disclosed and listed on PTO 1449 was considered.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims **1-17** are allowed.

Ma et al. (US 6,990,001), Pasotti et al. (US 6,400,607), Uekubo (US 6,163,484), Kim (US 6,128,227) and Chang et al. (US 219,290) disclose an apparatus for sensing a memory cell having sense amplifier with a reference unit similar to that of the present application, but fail to teach:

“generating an analog voltage V_{ddr} proportional to a current of a selected array cell of said memory array; and upon receiving a timing signal based on a comparison of an output of a reference cell, comparing said analog voltage V_{ddr} with a reference constant voltages V_{comp} to generate an output signal” as claimed in the independent claim 1, dependent claims **2-4** are therefore allowed because of their dependency on claim 1; or

“transforming a signal from a memory cell to a time delay based on a comparison with a constant voltage; and sensing said memory cell by comparing said time delay to

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a time delay of a reference cell" as claimed in the independent claim **5**, dependent claims **6-9** are therefore allowed because of their dependency on claim **5**; or

"a drain driver adapted to generate an analog voltage V_{ddr} proportional to a current of a selected array cell of said memory array; and a comparator adapted to compare said analog voltage V_{ddr} with a constant reference V_{comp} to generate an output signal upon receiving a timing signal based on a comparison of an output of a reference cell" as claimed in the independent claim **10**, dependent claims **11-13** are therefore allowed because of their dependency on claim **10**; or

"a driver adapted to transform a signal from a memory cell to a time delay based on a comparison with a constant voltage; and a comparator adapted to compare said time delay to a time delay of a reference cell" as claimed in the independent claim **14**, dependent claims **15-17** are therefore allowed because of their dependency on claim **14**.

Any comments considered necessary by applicants must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comment on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **ANH PHUNG** whose telephone number is **(571) 272-1883**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **RICHARD ELMS**, can be reached on **(571) 272-1869**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **(571) 273-8700**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (toll-free).

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ANH PHUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER